

International Participation in NASA's New Frontiers Program

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International Participation in NASA's New Frontiers Program

- NASA Policy Guidelines:
 - International participation is encouraged
 - Must be on a cooperative, no-exchange-of-funds basis; foreign partner must cover its own costs
 - NASA does not fund foreign research, but contracting for foreign goods/services acceptable within existing USG foreign procurement regulations
 - Russia a unique case: Iran Nonproliferation Act of 2000
 - Use of foreign launch vehicles: National Space Transportation Policy

International Participation in NASA's New Frontiers Program

- NASA Policy for International Cooperation
 - Demonstrate scientific and technical merit
 - Demonstrate a specific benefit to NASA; meeting NASA programmatic objectives
 - Each side funds its own responsibilities; contributions need not be equivalent
 - Minimize management and technical complexity through “clean interfaces”
 - Foreign contributions should be significant, not “pieceparts”
 - Structured to protect against unwarranted technology transfer

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- Importance of strong endorsement letter from each foreign partner agency as part of proposal
- If selected, cooperative project will be documented in a written, specific, legally-binding agreement between NASA and its foreign partner agency, usually government
 - NASA Office of External Relations, Space Science Division (Code IS) has lead responsibility for drafting, negotiating and concluding all international agreements for space science projects
 - Letters of Agreement (LOA's) and/or Memoranda of Understanding (MOU's)
 - Department of State and USG interagency review required